

**Andrew Jackson to Hugh Lawson White, June 1, 1831,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

TO HUGH L. WHITE.

June 1, 1831.

My dear friend: This moment Major F. W Armstrong's letter of the 22d instant has reached me, in which he details a conversation had with you agreeably to my request to him and which he concludes in the following language "that if I did beleive it necessary either for myself or the country notwithstanding his (your) objections he (you) would accept."

In my letter to you of the 29th of April last, I went into the subject on each point, both as to my private wishes and feelings as well as the public feeling, so that I need not advert to either only to add that your appointment has been hailed every where by the nation as a happy one. And as to myself that nothing could be more grateful.

I trust you know me too well to require any assurance that no consideration of a mere personal nature could induce me to ask at the hands of my friends any thing which it would be injurious to them to grant—much less could I do so from one placed in such peculiar and unhappy circumstances as you are. In my letter to you of the [9th of April]¹ I stated my conviction that your appointment was under the circumstances of vital importance to the public interest and that it would moreover be particularly gratifying to myself. All subsequent reflection and information have but served to fortify those opinions: and I assure you my. dear Sir, that if you could have been sensible of the deep interest taken in the matter in every part of the Union you could not have hesitated. There has not been

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an instance since the establishment of the Government where an appointment has been hailed with more satisfaction by the people than yours.

1 The date is blank in the manuscript, but the letter of Apr. 9 seems to have been intended, although the letter of Apr. 29 may have been meant, so far as the context goes.

Wishing to reply by the return mail and not desiring to foreclose you by your declaration thro' our mutual friend Maj. A from a more deliberate acceptance under your own hand, I have thought it my duty as your sincere friend to write you and to keep every thing silent and confidential until I receive your answer.

yr. friend